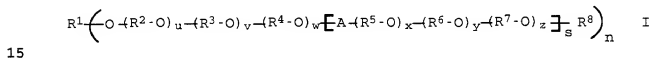


We claim:

1. A process for preparing graft copolymers of polyvinyl esters
5 by polymerization of

- a) at least one vinyl ester of aliphatic C₁-C₂₄-carboxylic
acids in the presence of
- 10 b) polyethers which are solid at room temperature and have
the general formula I



in which the variables have the following meaning,
independently of one another:

- 20 R¹ hydrogen, C₁-C₂₄-alkyl, R⁹-C(=O)-, R⁹-NH-C(=O)-,
polyalcohol residue;

R⁸ hydrogen, C₁-C₂₄-alkyl, R⁹-C(=O)-, R⁹-NH-C(=O)-;

- 25 R² to R⁷

-(CH₂)₂-, -(CH₂)₃-, -(CH₂)₄-, -CH₂-CH(CH₃)-,
-CH₂-CH(CH₂-CH₃)-, -CH₂-CHOR¹⁰-CH₂-;

- 30 R⁹ C₁-C₂₄-alkyl;

R¹⁰ hydrogen, C₁-C₂₄-alkyl, R⁹-C(=O)-;

- 35 A -C(=O)-O-, -C(=O)-B-C(=O)-O-,
-C(=O)-NH-B-NH-C(=O)-O-;

B -(CH₂)_t-, arylene, optionally substituted;

- 40 n 1 to 8;

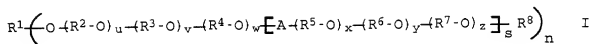
s 0 to 500;

t 1 to 12;

- 45 u 1 to 5000;

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- v 0 to 5000;
- w 0 to 5000;
- 5 x 1 to 5000;
- y 0 to 5000;
- z 0 to 5000
- 10 c) and, where appropriate, at least one other monomer
- using a free-radical initiator system, wherein liquid polyalkylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator system.
- 15
2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solution of the free-radical initiator system is added continuously throughout the polymerization reaction time.
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3. A process as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, wherein liquid polyethylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator at room temperature.
- 25 4. The use of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3 as coating agents, binders and/or film-forming excipients for pharmaceutical dosage forms.
5. The use of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3 as additives to cosmetic, hygienic and/or dermatological preparations.
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6. A cosmetic, dermatological, hygienic or pharmaceutical dosage form comprising at least one of the polymers prepared by a process as claimed in claims 1 to 3 in addition to conventional excipients.
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7. Graft copolymers of polyvinyl esters obtainable by polymerization of
- 40
- a) at least one vinyl ester of aliphatic C₁-C₂₄-carboxylic acids in the presence of
- b) polyethers which are solid at room temperature and have the general formula I
- 45



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in which the variables have the following meaning,
independently of one another:

10 R^1 hydrogen, C_1 - C_{24} -alkyl; R^9 - $C(=O)$ -, R^9 - NH - $C(=O)$ -,
polyalcohol residue;

R^8 hydrogen, C_1 - C_{24} -alkyl, R^9 - $C(=O)$ -, R^9 - NH - $C(=O)$ -;

15 R^2 to R^7

$-(CH_2)_2$ -, $-(CH_2)_3$ -, $-(CH_2)_4$ -, $-CH_2-CH(CH_3)$ -,
 $-CH_2-CH(CH_2-CH_3)$ -, $-CH_2-CHOR^{10}-CH_2$ -;

20 R^9 C_1 - C_{24} -alkyl;

R^{10} hydrogen, C_1 - C_{24} -alkyl, R^9 - $C(=O)$ -;

A $-C(=O)-O$ -, $-C(=O)-B-C(=O)-O$ -,
25 $-C(=O)-NH-B-NH-C(=O)-O$ -;

B $-(CH_2)_t$ -, arylene, optionally substituted;

n 1 to 8;

30 s 0 to 500;

t 1 to 12;

35 u 1 to 5000;

v 0 to 5000;

w 0 to 5000;

40 x 1 to 5000;

y 0 to 5000;

45 z 0 to 5000

c) and, where appropriate, at least one other monomer

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using a free-radical initiator system, wherein liquid polyalkylene glycol is used as solvent for the free-radical initiator system.

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